

Industry Earnings

Industry earnings are indicative of the overall size of a local economy as well as the relative importance of each major industrial sector within that economy. The diversity of economic activities in the region presents an array of challenges to park management. For example, relatively mobile industries such as light manufacturing or financial services may be concerned with land costs and tax rates, whereas natural resource dependent industries such as farming or mining may be concerned with land use regulations and other environmental policies. Within the Blue Ridge Parkway region (1999), the leading sector of earnings in 18 counties and Roanoke City is sales and services.

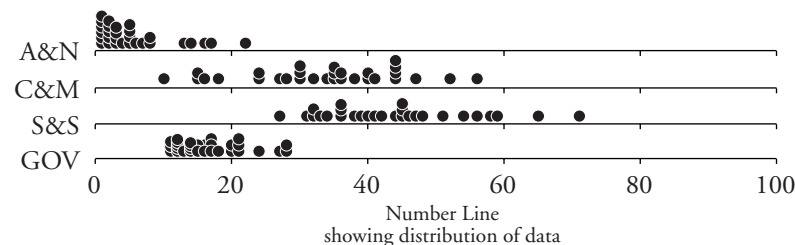
Data for the independent cities of Virginia, except Roanoke City, are not individually reported. The data for independent cities are combined with data for the counties which enclose them.⁶

% total earnings by industrial category (1999)

	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV		A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
Alleghany	22	35	32	11	Henderson	7	35	45	12
Amherst	1	35	36	28	Jackson	5	15	51	28
Ashe	16	40	32	12	McDowell	5	56	27	12
Augusta	2	34	47	17	Mitchell	13	30	39	18
Avery	17	24	46	14	Nelson	6	18	59	17
Bedford	1	40	45	14	Patrick	2	47	38	13
Botetourt	5	36	44	15	Roanoke	1	28	56	16
Buncombe	2	24	58	16	Rockbridge	1	30	48	21
Burke	3	44	31	21	Surry	8	44	36	12
Caldwell	3	52	34	11	Swain	1	10	65	24
Carroll	2	41	42	15	Transylvania	3	44	41	11
Floyd	7	27	46	20	Watauga	3	15	54	27
Franklin	2	44	40	14	Wilkes	8	30	48	14
Grayson	5	38	36	21	Yancey	14	36	33	17
Haywood	4	32	45	20	Roanoke City	1	16	71	12

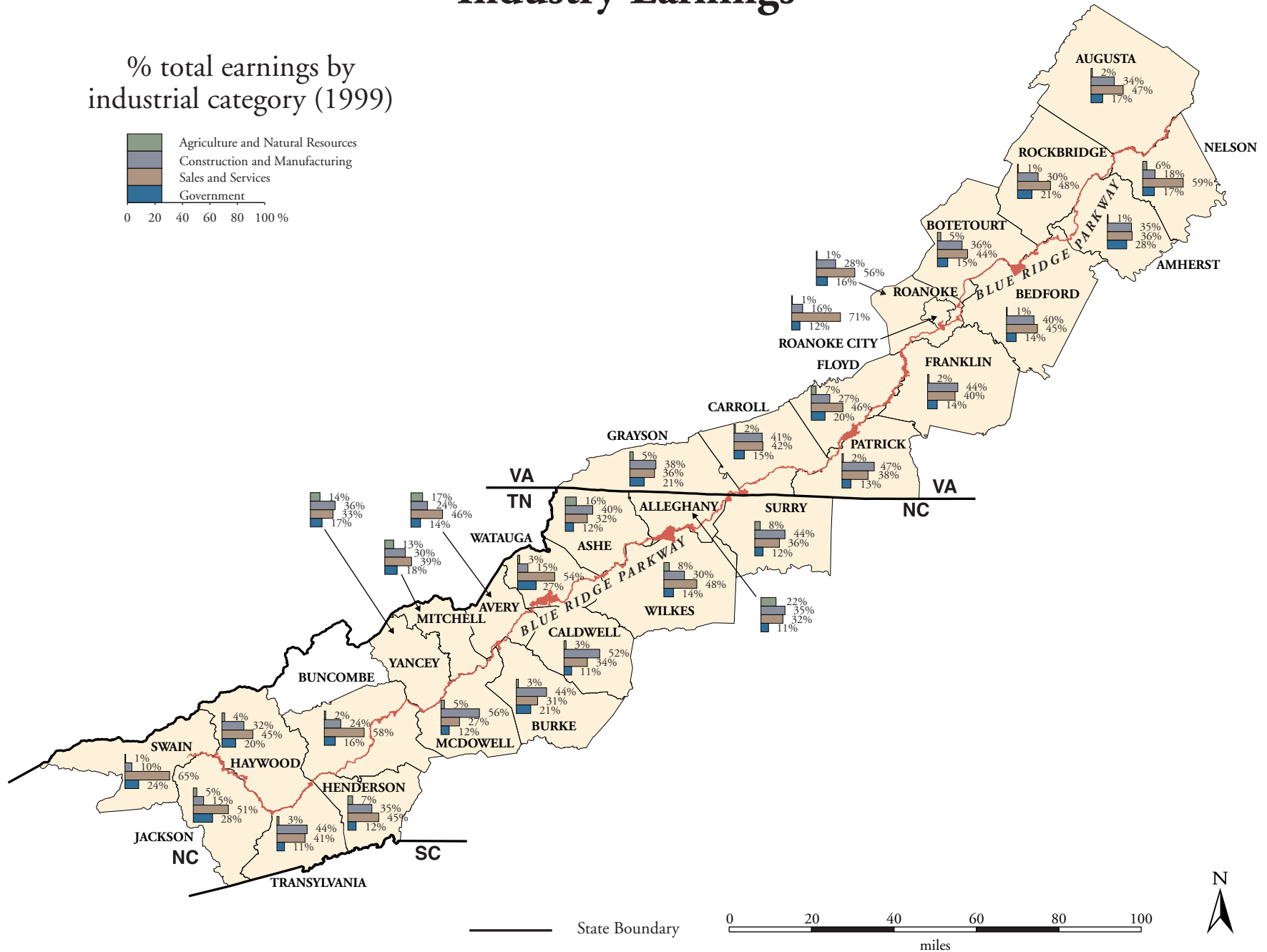
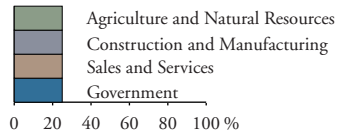
A&N = Agriculture and Natural Resources
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Percentages may not add to one hundred due to rounding.



Industry Earnings

% total earnings by
industrial category (1999)



Employment by Industry

One indicator of the way a particular county's job market is structured is the percentage of workers employed in each of the four major industrial sectors. This employment distribution is indicative of the kinds of skills, knowledge, and concerns that are most prevalent among workers. Occupational patterns can influence people's priorities and actions with regard to parks and resource protection. For example, construction workers might welcome the prospect of rapid growth, whereas government workers such as teachers and police might worry that rapid growth would stress existing government resources. Within the Blue Ridge Parkway region (1999), the leading sector of employment in 27 counties and Roanoke City is sales and services. Construction and manufacturing is the leading sector in Caldwell and McDowell counties.

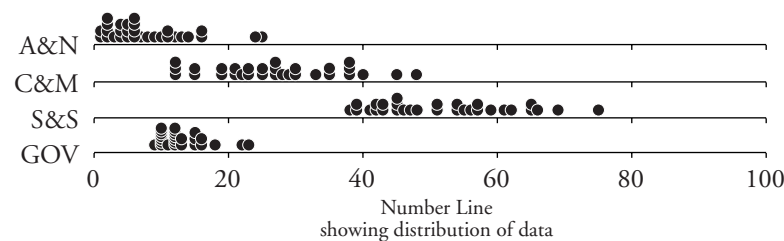
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% employment by
industrial category (1999)

	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV		A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
Alleghany	16	35	39	9	Henderson	5	28	57	11
Amherst	5	23	48	23	Jackson	4	12	62	22
Ashe	16	33	42	10	McDowell	2	48	38	12
Augusta	6	25	54	15	Mitchell	11	27	46	16
Avery	12	19	59	11	Nelson	13	15	61	11
Bedford	8	27	54	11	Patrick	11	38	41	10
Botetourt	10	27	51	12	Roanoke	1	21	66	12
Buncombe	2	21	65	12	Rockbridge	6	23	55	15
Burke	2	38	42	18	Surry	6	40	45	10
Caldwell	2	45	43	10	Swain	3	12	69	16
Carroll	7	38	43	12	Transylvania	4	30	56	10
Floyd	25	19	45	12	Watauga	4	12	65	19
Franklin	9	35	47	10	Wilkes	6	30	51	13
Grayson	24	25	39	13	Yancey	14	29	45	12
Haywood	5	22	57	15	Roanoke City	1	15	75	10

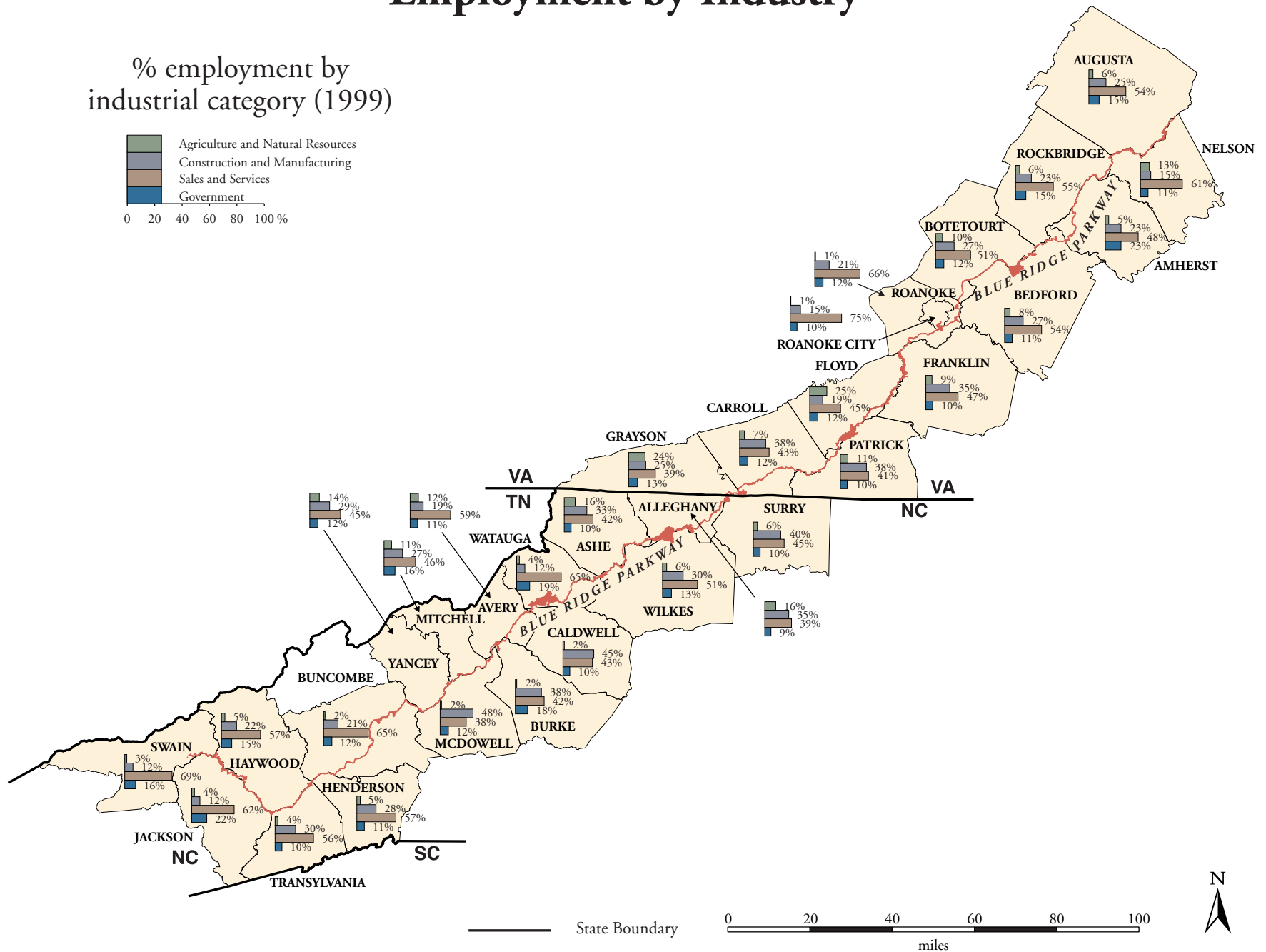
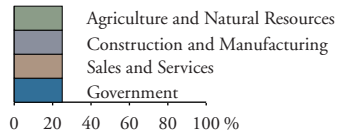
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Employment by Industry

% employment by
industrial category (1999)



Change in Employment by Industry

Jobs are of critical importance to individuals, families, and communities. Change in the proportion of people employed by various industries within an economy can create a cascading set of impacts. A declining industry's displacement of workers whose skills are in less demand can generate stress among households and communities. A growing industry's demand for new sets of skills can influence migration patterns and educational priorities. Local and regional political decisions, including those that impact park management goals, often place priority on protecting existing jobs or attracting new employment opportunities. Within the Blue Ridge Parkway region (1990-1999), counties varied not only in the relative rates of growth for each industry but also in the overall pace of employment growth.

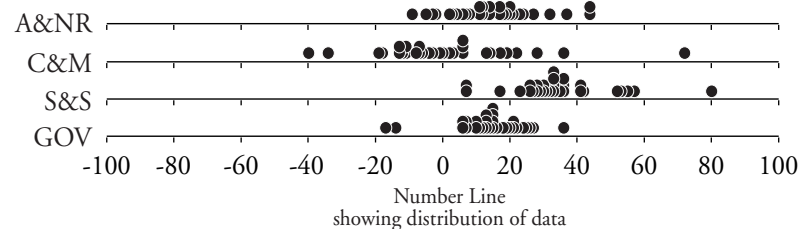
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% change in employment by industrial category (1990-1999)

	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV		A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
Alleghany	20	36	30	-14	Henderson	12	17	36	21
Amherst	17	28	7	-17	Jackson	27	-11	80	11
Ashe	19	2	26	22	McDowell	17	6	33	36
Augusta	23	-7	23	6	Mitchell	18	-13	33	16
Avery	44	19	28	25	Nelson	3	6	42	10
Bedford	12	14	53	18	Patrick	-9	-4	17	6
Botetourt	11	72	41	27	Roanoke	37	-13	7	7
Buncombe	14	-1	36	13	Rockbridge	11	3	26	10
Burke	20	-12	30	13	Surry	4	-3	32	26
Caldwell	21	0	33	19	Swain	44	-40	31	15
Carroll	8	-6	27	15	Transylvania	32	-7	28	12
Floyd	14	-18	55	24	Watauga	6	22	41	15
Franklin	-3	6	52	21	Wilkes	2	-8	35	15
Grayson	7	-34	33	14	Yancey	-2	-19	57	20
Haywood	-5	-11	36	13	Roanoke City	24	13	29	7

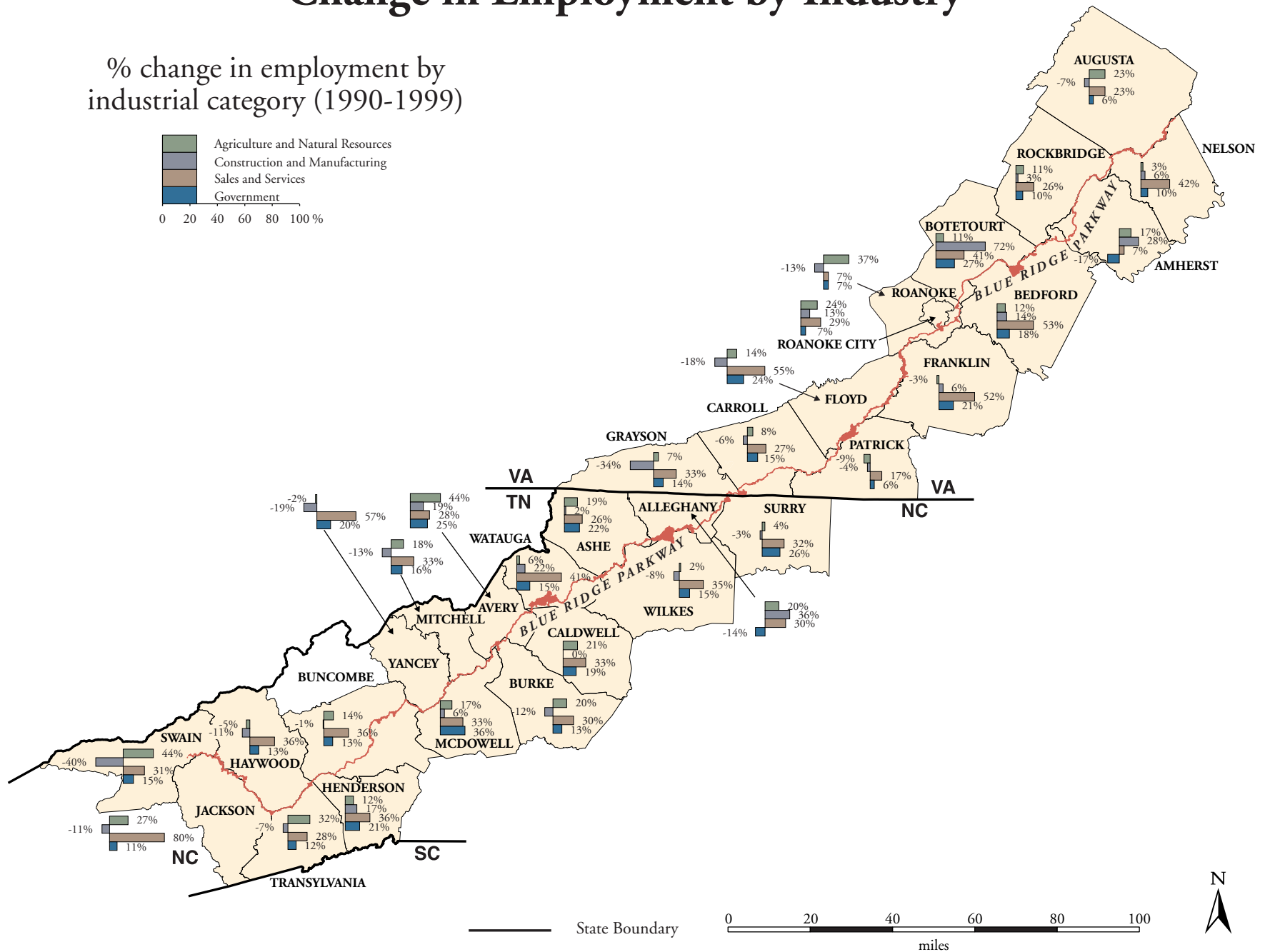
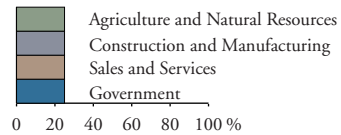
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Change in Employment by Industry

% change in employment by industrial category (1990-1999)



Projected Change in Industry Earnings

Projected change in industry earnings may be indicative of the overall continued growth or decline of a local economy as well as a prediction of the relative importance of each major industrial sector within that economy. The diversity of economic activities in the region presents an array of challenges to park management. For example, relatively mobile industries such as light manufacturing or financial services may be concerned with land costs and tax rates, whereas natural resource dependent industries such as farming or mining may be concerned with land use regulations and other environmental policies. Within the Blue Ridge Parkway region (2000-2020), all counties show an increase in earnings in all industrial categories, with the largest projected increases generally in sales and service.

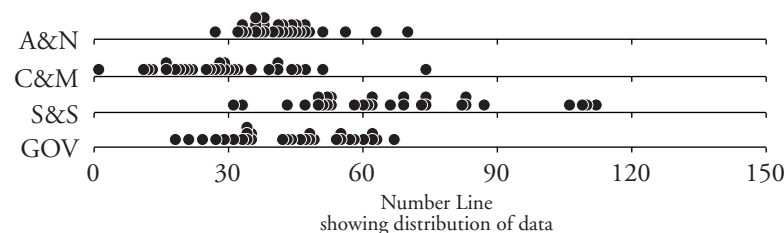
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% projected change in earnings
by industrial category (2000-2020)

	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV		A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
Alleghany	45	45	109	55	Henderson	41	51	66	46
Amherst	45	47	52	24	Jackson	47	41	106	34
Ashe	36	39	62	58	McDowell	42	29	58	62
Augusta	36	16	43	33	Mitchell	56	18	61	67
Avery	63	21	83	60	Nelson	44	30	110	18
Bedford	44	44	112	62	Patrick	43	41	31	31
Botetourt	40	74	74	47	Roanoke	38	32	87	44
Buncombe	46	27	73	34	Rockbridge	32	29	53	42
Burke	70	16	62	21	Surry	37	28	60	54
Caldwell	36	28	50	55	Swain	33	13	82	29
Carroll	42	20	52	49	Transylvania	38	22	47	35
Floyd	38	19	69	43	Watauga	51	25	74	63
Franklin	34	35	83	57	Wilkes	27	26	50	48
Grayson	41	1	53	34	Yancey	48	31	51	48
Haywood	47	11	69	27	Roanoke City	33	12	33	35

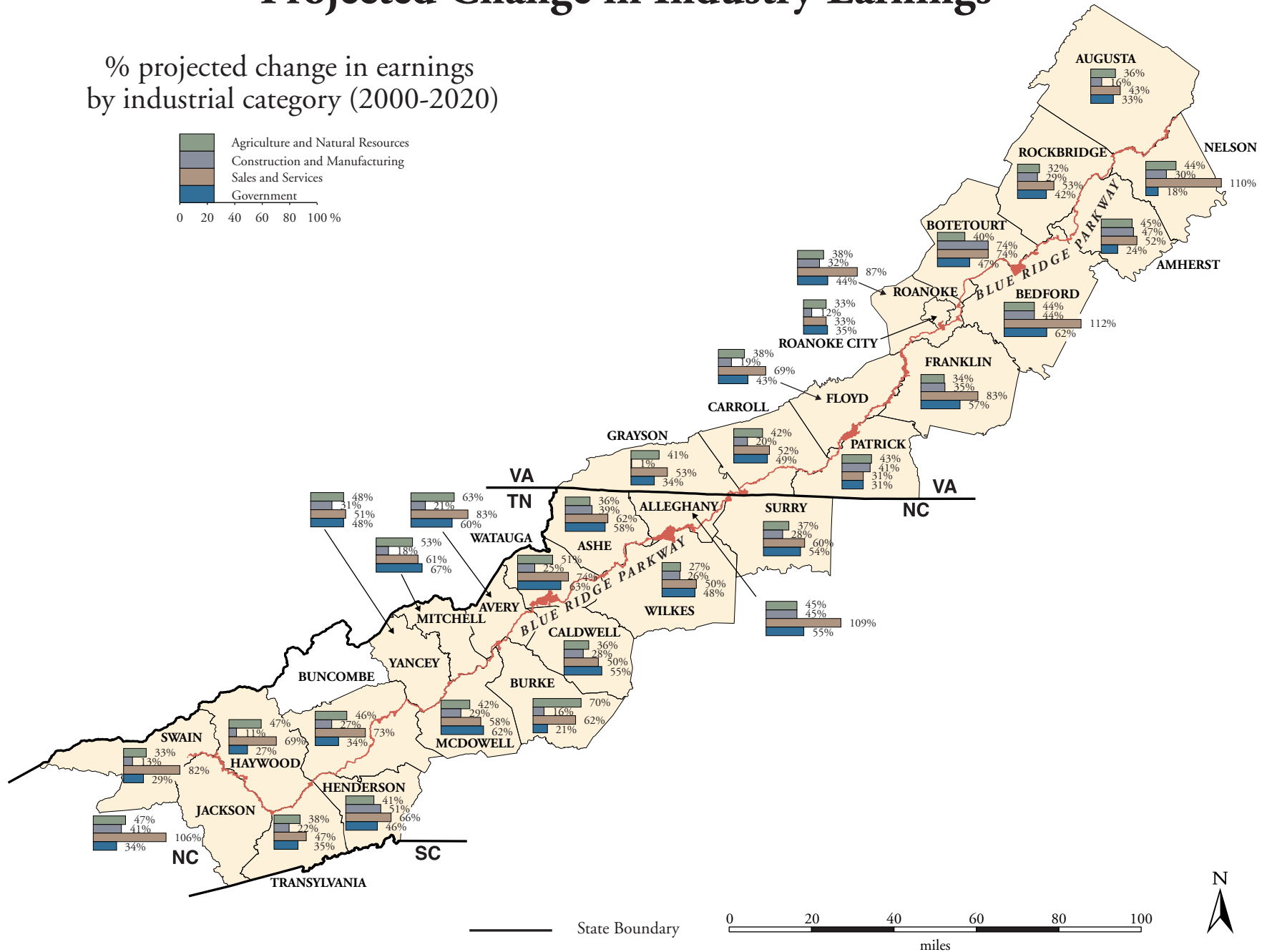
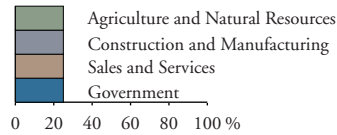
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Projected Change in Industry Earnings

% projected change in earnings
by industrial category (2000-2020)



Projected Change in Employment by Industry

Jobs in the four industrial sectors are in a constant state of flux. A projected decline or increase in a certain industrial sector may show which skills could be in demand at a future date. This could lead to a change in migration patterns in the counties around the park as people respond to changing employment trends. Within the Blue Ridge Parkway region (2000-2020), counties varied in the relative rates of growth for each industry with modest declines in employment predicted for the agriculture and natural resources and construction and manufacturing sectors and increases in sales and services and government sectors.

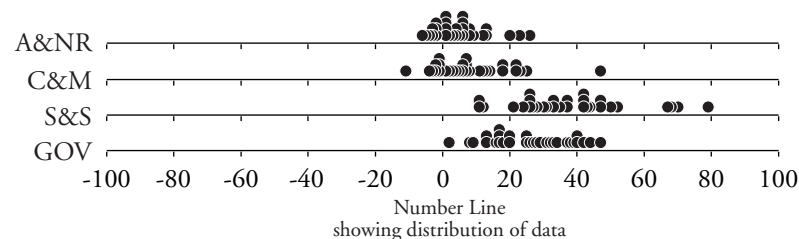
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% projected change in employment
by industrial category (2000-2020)

	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV		A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
Alleghany	4	18	79	33	Henderson	6	25	37	28
Amherst	1	22	28	9	Jackson	8	22	67	17
Ashe	1	18	35	40	McDowell	6	6	30	44
Augusta	5	-2	21	17	Mitchell	26	-1	31	47
Avery	23	3	47	40	Nelson	-2	11	68	2
Bedford	2	23	70	39	Patrick	-5	14	11	13
Botetourt	6	47	43	26	Roanoke	13	7	47	27
Buncombe	8	6	44	20	Rockbridge	-3	8	27	25
Burke	20	-4	33	8	Surry	-3	7	37	34
Caldwell	12	5	26	38	Swain	4	-2	50	18
Carroll	1	-1	24	31	Transylvania	9	2	11	20
Floyd	-2	1	42	25	Watauga	6	7	42	42
Franklin	-6	13	52	37	Wilkes	-4	4	33	29
Grayson	-2	-11	26	17	Yancey	3	12	26	32
Haywood	1	-1	42	13	Roanoke City	13	-3	12	16

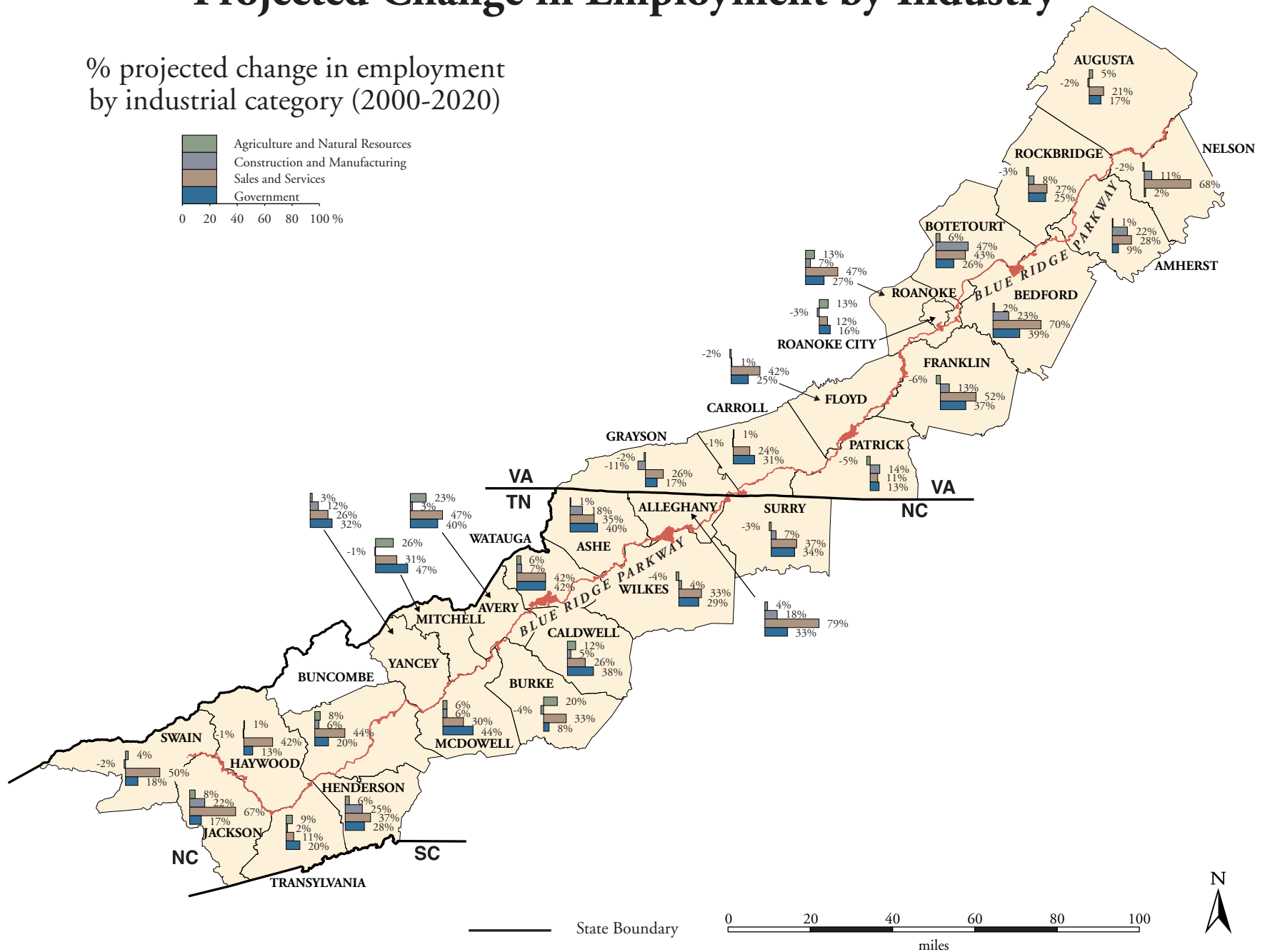
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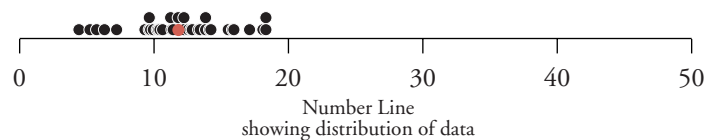
Projected Change in Employment by Industry

% projected change in employment
by industrial category (2000-2020)



Poverty

Poverty is officially defined as the condition of living in a household with income below the federally-determined poverty threshold (\$16,700 in 1999). The extent of poverty can be measured as the percentage of the total population living below that threshold. Those living in poverty can face such difficulties as finding adequate housing and health care, getting enough food, and reaching job sites and government services, including parks. The level of poverty in the park region necessarily becomes significant to park management decisions and priorities. Within the Blue Ridge Parkway region, the incidence of poverty (1999) ranges from 4.4% (Roanoke) to 18.3% (Bedford City).¹¹



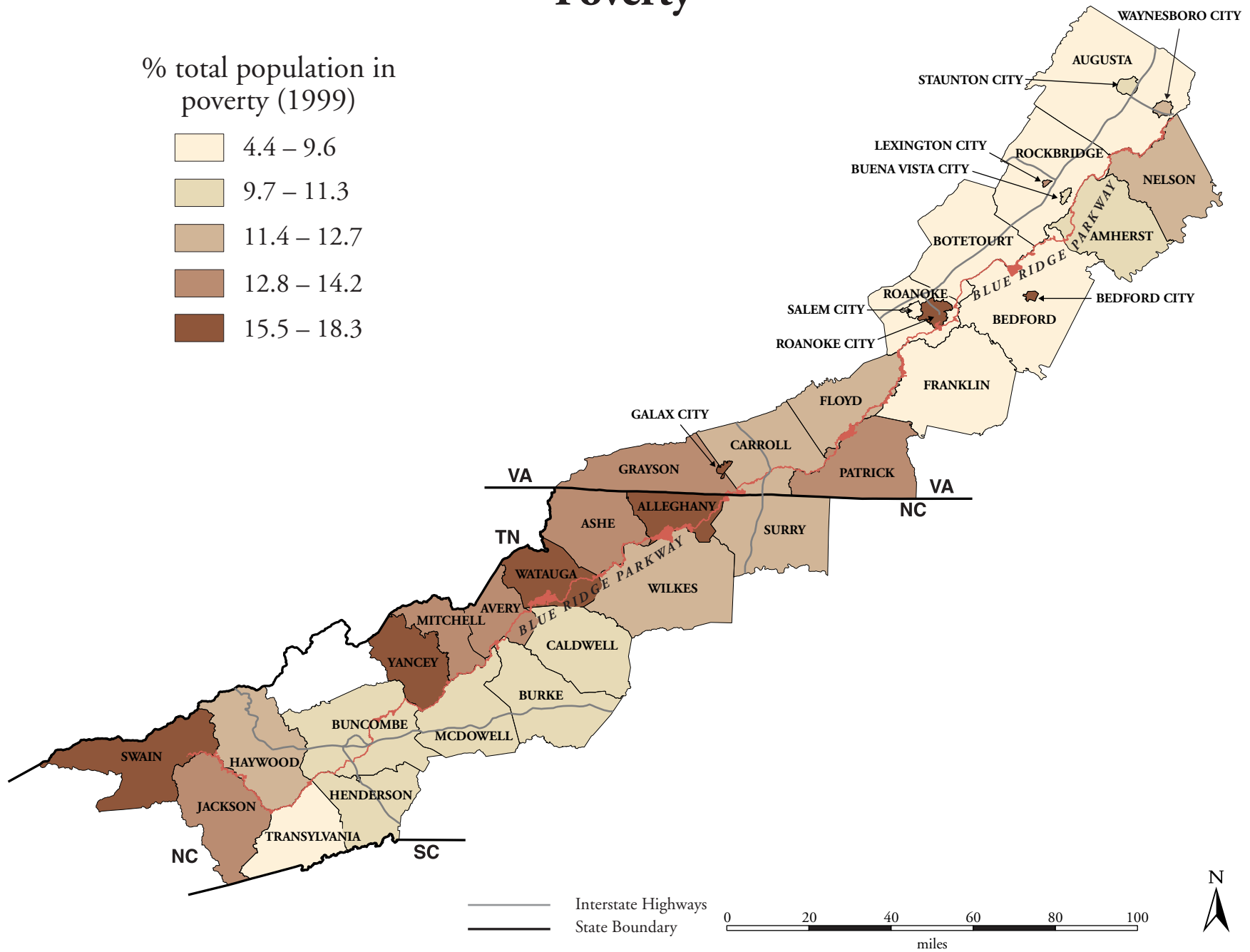
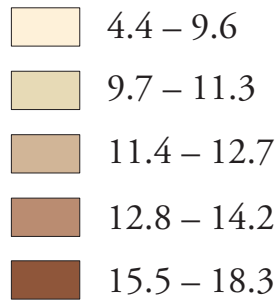
NOTES

% total population in poverty (1999)

Roanoke	4.4	Grayson	12.8
Botetourt	5.2	Patrick	13.3
Augusta	5.7	Ashe	13.4
Bedford	7.2	Avery	13.8
Transylvania	9.3	Mitchell	13.8
Rockbridge	9.6	Jackson	14.1
Franklin	9.6	Yancey	15.8
Henderson	9.7	Watauga	15.9
Amherst	10.2	Alleghany	17.1
Burke	10.3	Swain	18.1
Caldwell	10.6	Salem City	6.3
Buncombe	11.2	Buena Vista City	9.9
McDowell	11.3	Staunton City	10.4
Haywood	11.4	Waynesboro City	12.7
Wilkes	11.8	Lexington City	14.2
Floyd	11.8	Roanoke City	15.5
Nelson	12.2	Galax City	18.3
Surry	12.2	Bedford City	18.3
Carroll	12.5		

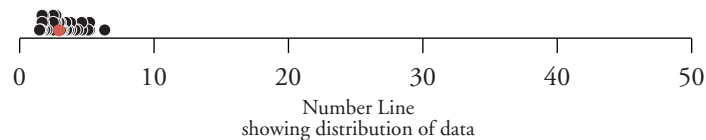
Poverty

% total population in poverty (1999)



Home Based Employment

Since the mid-1980s the Census Bureau has been keeping track of home based employment. The percentage of people who choose to work at home has increased during this period. The increased use of the internet and other telecommunication technologies allows not only owners of small businesses and other self-employed individuals, but also certain employees from larger businesses, to work at home. Within the Blue Ridge Parkway region (2000), the percentage of the employed labor force working at home ranges from 1.5% (Surry) to 6.3% (Franklin).



NOTES

% employed labor force working at home (2000)

Surry	1.5	Transylvania	3.5
Caldwell	1.7	Bedford	3.6
Burke	1.7	Buncombe	3.8
Floyd	1.8	Avery	3.8
McDowell	2.0	Wilkes	4.1
Yancey	2.5	Nelson	4.3
Swain	2.5	Mitchell	4.6
Augusta	2.5	Ashe	5.2
Watauga	2.7	Patrick	5.2
Rockbridge	2.7	Franklin	6.3
Jackson	2.7	Salem City	1.6
Haywood	2.7	Galax City	1.7
Amherst	2.9	Waynesboro City	1.8
Roanoke	2.9	Roanoke City	1.9
Botetourt	3.0	Staunton City	2.6
Alleghany	3.0	Buena Vista City	2.8
Carroll	3.1	Bedford City	4.6
Henderson	3.2	Lexington City	5.1
Grayson	3.4		

Home Based Employment

% employed labor force
working at home (2000)

